

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph [0027] on page 5 with the following amended paragraph:

An isolation chamber 54 is fittable within a shroud tube 58 that is attached to a printed circuit board 62 in this instance by use of a series of conventional fasteners, the circuit board including at least a portion of the resident processing circuitry of the thermometry apparatus 50. A first switch assembly is attached to the circuit board 62 adjacent a lower or bottom end 59 of the shroud tube 58, the switch assembly including an actuating arm 66 having a portion that extends into the envelope of the shroud tube. The actuating arm 66 is pivotally attached to the circuit board 62 and relative to a mechanical switch 69 that is also attached to the same side of the circuit board. ~~axis with a pair of light transmissive windows 78 (only one of which is shown in Fig. 2) that are formed in the isolation chamber 54 to permit light to pass when either an empty isolation chamber or no isolation chamber is present in the shroud tube 58. The light emitter 70 preferably is an IR diode, LED, or other light source that emits an infrared light beam that passes along the defined optical axis through the light transmissive material comprising each of the windows 78 of the isolation chamber 54. When an elongate probe 18 is present within the confines of the isolation chamber 54, the light beam is blocked and not sensed by the light detector 74, such as a photo diode. Therefore, the second switch assembly remains closed.~~

Please add the following new paragraph after paragraph [0027] as follows:

The apparatus 50 includes a second switch assembly that is integrated with the first switch assembly. The second switch assembly includes a miniature light emitter 70 and a corresponding light detector 74, each of which are disposed on opposing sides of the shroud tube 58 at an intermediate distance from the bottom end 59 thereof. The light emitter 70 and detector 74 are each aligned along an optical axis with a pair of light transmissive windows 78 (only one of which is shown in Fig. 2) that are formed in the isolation chamber 54 to permit light to pass when either an empty isolation chamber or no isolation chamber is present in the shroud tube 58.

The light emitter 70 preferably is an IR diode, LED, or other light source that emits an infrared light beam that passes along the defined optical axis through the light transmissive material comprising each of the windows 78 of the isolation chamber 54. When an elongate probe 18 is present within the confines of the isolation chamber 54, the light beam is blocked and not sensed by the light detector 74, such as a photo diode. Therefore, the second switch assembly remains closed.

Please replace paragraph [0029] on page 6 with the following amended paragraph:

In operation and referring to Figs. 2-5, the isolation chamber 54 is first installed into the thermometry housing 14, Fig. 1, by placing same within the formed cavity of the housing, Fig. 1, and aligning the chamber with the top of the opening of the shroud tube 58. As the lower end of the isolation chamber 54 is positioned such that it extends through the bottom end 59 of the shroud tube, as shown in Fig. 3, the portion of the actuating arm 66 extending into the envelope of the shroud tube is caused to pivot, in this case in a counterclockwise direction, and the actuating arm causes the closure of the mechanical switch 69 through a resulting inward movement of an actuator 71 thereof. As a result, the first switch assembly is enabled. In the meantime, the thermometry apparatus 50 is not yet powered until the elongate probe 18 has been removed from the isolation chamber 54, as shown in Fig. 5, such that light from the light emitter 70 passes to the detector 74, causing closure of the second switch assembly. When both switch assemblies have been closed, the thermometry apparatus 50 is then automatically powered and is ready for use.

Please delete paragraph [0030] on page 6 in its entirety.

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